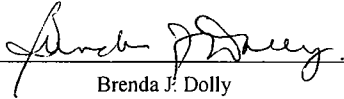


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via EFS-Web with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on 7/18/07.

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 025929-000200US

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:   
Brenda J. Dolly

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Rush E. Simonson

Application No.: 10/696,727

Filed: October 28, 2003

For: VERTEBRAL IMPLANTS  
ADAPTED FOR POSTERIOR  
INSERTION

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 6338

Examiner: Michael J. Araj

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3733

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendments  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the non-final office action mailed January 18, 2007, for which a petition is submitted to extend time for three months from April 18, 2007 to July 18, 2007, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.